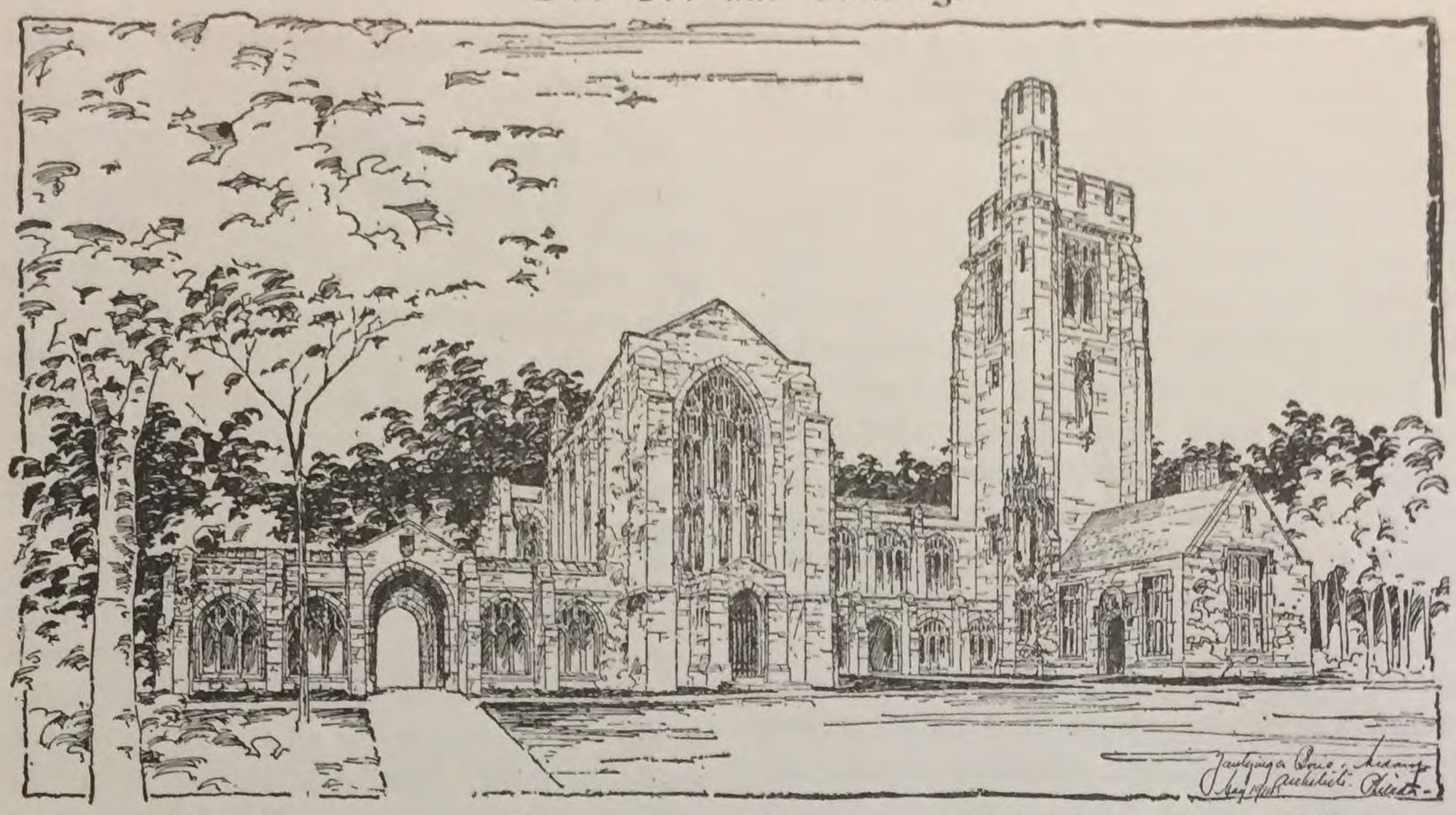
"For God and Country.



Cloister of the Colonies Washington Memorial Chapel Patriots' Hall Tower and Library

"No spot on earth—not the plains of Marathon, nor the passes of Sempach, nor the place of the Bastile, nor the dykes of Holland, nor the moors of England—is so sacred in the history of the struggle for human liberty as Valley Forge."

—CYRUS TOWNSEND BRADY

The Washington Chapel Chronicle

Valley Forge.

A MONTHLY RECORD OF RELIGION AND PATRIOTISM.

THE REV. W. HERBERT BURK, Editor and Publisher. The Defenders' Gate, Valley Forge.

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Peace or War?

On the hills of Valley Forge stand the storm-trained veterans of the forest, and against their dark ranks float the peace banners of the dogwood. Here memories of the past jostle the feelings of the present, and Americans who behold the beauty of the scene, recall the soldiers of the Revolution, their courage and their cause, and deep within their souls feel the conflict of the hour, the contest between Peace and War.

How awful the contest is one can see in the tense faces, can hear in the solemn tones, can feel in the absorbed manner, in the conscious effort to self-control of those who visit this national shrine. But deep and strong is the detestation of crimes against humanity, crimes which move backward the shadow on the dial, back and back until barbarism seems to transcend civilization in gentle graces, and paganism outweigh Christianity in love. Before the ruthless destruction of women and children, biers heaped with babes, and morgues filled with mothers, the world stands aghast. America mourns her children, and the moan of the sea grows louder, and louder as horror fills the soul. The dripping corpses rise from the waters, the ship's wreckage floats upon the wave, but ruined lives and broken hearts, trampled

treaties, repudiated rights, and the Nation's honor bring us face to face with the stern alternative of Peace or War.

Former generations have shuddered at the memory of Herod and Nero. Catherine De Medici and Charles IX have filled the soul with loathing. Ivan, the Terrible, and Abdul Hamid have besmeared with blood the pages of history, and made memorials of their butcheries. Their ignorance, their age, their nature—these excuses cast a thin veil over their crimes. These names of ignominy and horror have now lost their evil prestige and for the Twentieth Century has been reserved the shame of one who by right of might, and greed, and gore stands unrivalled—Frederick Wilhelm Victor Albert,—

"fellest of the giant brood,
Sons of bruitish Force and Darkness, who
have drenched the earth with blood,
Famished in his self-made desert, blinded
by our purer day,
Gropes in yet unblasted regions for his
miserable prey;
Shall we guide his gory fingers where our
helpless children play?"

The rattlesnake gives warning before it strikes, but its venom is no less virulent, death no less horrible, sorrow no less poignant, nor the reptile no less vile. Alike in its blind passion, it strikes the death-dealing hunter and the child at play. Upon it men wage the war of extermination and its head is crowned with the curses of outraged humanity. The cry for vengeance grows louder, deeper, more imperative, as crime is added to crime, and the death toll rolls up its numbers with Belgian's mothers and Lusitania's babes. But let us remember this, that though

"Careless seems the great Avenger; history's pages but record
One death-grapple in the darkness 'twixt
old systems and the Word;
Truth forever on the scaffold, Wrong forever on the throne,
Yet that scaffold sways the future, and,
behind the dim unknown,
Standeth God within the shadow, keeping
watch above His own."

This grand thought calmed the poet's passion in another national crisis. To-day we need the same true faith and unfaltering trust to guide our course aright, to save us from meeting madness with madness, crime with crime. Let us remember and heed St. Paul's exhortation: "Avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath; for it is written Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord."

In President Wilson's address of welcome to the four thousand newly-naturalized citizens he clearly indicated his own desire for peace with Germany. He said: "There is such a thing as a man being too proud to fight. There is such a thing as a nation being so right that it does not need to convince others by force that it is right."

Others may declare this to be the coward's plea, but only a man of the truest, strongest, sanest moral courage could have uttered those words in the face of that vast assemblage,—horror stricken at an outrageous attack upon helpless women and children, whose cries were calls for vengeance,—indignant at an insult to the Nation. Only those who were present can appreciate the self-control and the mastery of men which those few words showed. America is not afraid to fight. She *is* ashamed to stain her hands with blood unless it be necessary for the sake of civilization; for the sake of all that man holds dear; to hunt to his lair the guilty felon who has bathed his hands in the blood of the world's best Nations, made cathedrals charnel houses, cities chaos, the earth a jungle. It heartens those who love righteousness and peace to see a sane President over against a maniac Emperor.

President Wilson's attitude was that of Washington, who said: "Nothing short of self-respect, and that justice which is essential to a national character, ought to involve us in war; for sure I am, if this country is preserved in tranquility twenty

years longer, it may bid defiance, in a just cause, to any power whatever; such, in that time, will be its population, wealth, and resources." Six times the span of twenty years has been measured and the population, wealth and resources have multiplied marvellously. To us has come the power to protect our rights of which Washington dreamed when he said, "If we remain one people, under an efficient government, the period is not far off when we may take such an attitude as will cause the neutrality we may at any time resolve upon, to be scrupulously respected; when belligerent nations, under the impossibility of making acquisitions upon us, will not lightly hazard the giving us provocation, when we may choose peace or war, as our interest, guided by justice, shall counsel."

The Nation waits, but waiting prays,
"God, give us peace! not such as lulls to sleep,
But sword on high, and brow with purpose knit!
And let our Ship of State to harbor sweep,
Her ports all up, her battle-lanterns lit,
And her leashed thunders gathering for their leap!"

Sunday-School Conference.

A Sectional Conference planned by the Diocesan Board of Religious Education was held at the Chapel on Tuesday, May 11th. J. Lee Patton, Esq., was the chairman, and to his efforts was due the great success of this educational effort.

The Conference began at five o'clock with a discussion of "How to Promote an Interest in Missions." Mrs. John Loman spoke for the Primary and Junior Departments, and illustrated her practical instructions with charts, diagrams, etc. The Rev. Jas. B. Halsey, the appointed speaker on this work in the Main School and Bible Classes, was unable to be present on account of parochial duties, so the chairman called on the Rev. Joseph H. Earp. Mr. Earp's address impressed all present, for it showed not only an appreciation of the problems but also a careful, conscientious effort to meet them in a practical manner. "Religious Education, —General Board, Provincial Board, Diocesan Board," was the subject assigned to the Rev. W. Herbert Burk, who told of the rapid development in recent years of an educational program and an organization to make it effective in the Diocese, the Province and the Church.

The second session of the Conference was held in the evening and was devoted to a consideration of two topics: 1. The organization of the Modern Sunday school. 2. Method of Teaching.

The Rev. Thomas S. Cline spoke on the first subject, and in doing so described the admirably planned course of his own school at Grace Church, Mt. Airy. Miss Helen I. Jennings spoke on "The Methods of Teaching in the Primary and Junior Department." Her excellent address gave evidence of a careful study of the children in these grades, and of the methods best adapted to their mental and moral needs. Her earenestness and enthusiasm added to the impressiveness of her message, while her practical suggestions, based on personal experience, were welcomed by her hearers.

The last speaker was the Rev. George Lynde Richardson whose subject was "Methods of Teaching in the Main School and Bible Classes." Here again the speaker was one who had the training both in theory and practice so essential in handling such a subject. His description of the conditions, and his suggestions for meeting them aroused the greatest interest in the teachers present.

The Conference was one of the best held in the Diocese and those present expressed their appreciation of the helpful addresses. Three other Conferences will be held as follows: May 18, Bryn Mawr; May 25, Lansdowne; June 1, Ambler.

Between the two sessions of the Conference a most enjoyable supper was served by the officers, teachers and older members of the Washington Chapel Sun-

day school and the Sunday school at King-of-Prussia. The parish house was tastefully decorated for the occasion, and was filled with the guests.

The Signers.

Under this title Mr. Walter R. Benjamin in the current number of "The Collector," a paper devoted exclusively to the interests of collectors of autographs and manuscripts, says: "The leading American set of autographs is that of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence. The collection of this began over fifty years ago, and it is still much favored. The great difficulty lies in securing anything of Thomas Lynch, Jr., of South Carolina, and Button Gwinnett, of Georgia.

"There is only one Lynch letter known, that in the New York Public Library—there are two or three documents, and perhaps thirty signatures.

"Of Gwinnett I know of but one letter, a few documents and some two dozen signatures.

"Mr. Thomas R. Proctor, of Utica, who has a complete set, has been trying to make a list of those who have complete sets. Here is the result:

Boston Public Library, Boston, Mass. ....1 set
Carpenters' Hall, Philadelphia, Pa. 1 set
Congressional Library, Washington, D. C. ..... 2 sets
Denver, City of, Colorado ..... 1 set
Ellsworth, James W., New York City .... 1 set
Gratz, Simon, Philadelphia, Pa. ... 2 sets
Haverford College, Haverford, Pa. 1 set
Hollingsworth, Z. T., Boston, Mass. 1 set
Joline, Adrian H. (decaesed), New York City ..... 1 set
Maine Historical Society, Portland, Me. .... 1 set
Malkan, Henry, New York City ... 1 set
Manning, James H., Albany, N. Y.. 1 set
Morgan, J. Pierpont (deceased), New York City ..... 2 sets
New York State Library, New York City .... 1 set
Pennsylvania Historical Society, Philadelphia ..... 2 sets
New York Public Library, New York City ..... 4 sets
Pratt, Herbert L., Brooklyn, N. Y. 1 set
Proctor, Thomas R., Utica, N. Y. .. 1 set
Southport Free Library, Southport, Conn. .... 1 set
State Historical Society, Wisconsin 1 set
Thacher, Mrs. John Boyd, Albany, N. Y. ..... 1 set
Thomas, George C. (deceased), Philadelphia .... 1 set
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa. ..... 1 set

Total ....30 sets

"As J. Pierpont Morgan presented a set of the Signers to the Congressional Library, it should really be credited with two sets as it has also the original declaration.

"I should think also that Charles F. Gunther, of Chicago, may have a set.

"I should be glad to receive any information of other complete sets.

"There are a dozen or more sets lacking some Gwinnett only, and others Lynch and Gwinnett.

"I am not familiar with all of the complete sets, but probably the finest ones are the Gratz, the Maine Historical Society, the Manning, one of the New York Public Library, and the Thacher."

There ought to be a set in the Valley Forge Museuem of American History. If a start be made there is no question that in time a complete collection could be built up. Of course the rarer autographs bring very high prices, but there is always a chance that at some time a collection may be completed, through gift or purchase, as the interest in it develops.

The Museum has some letters of the Presidents of the United States. A friend interested in this subject purchased these two or three years ago. These letters have been on exhibition in the Mary Elizabeth Schofield Collection.

Washington Memorial Chapel,
Valley Forge, Pa.

THE REV. W. HERBERT BURK, B. D.
RECTOR

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Mr. Frank Quigg, Vestry's Warden, Port Kennedy, Pa.; Mrs. S. Col. Summerill, Rector's Warden, Port Kennedy, Pa.

VESTRYMEN.

Mr. Charles C. Harrison, Jr., Mr. Richard Haughton, Mr. Nathan B. Hughes, Mr. Leslie Jefferis, Mr. Frank Quigg, Mr. S. Col. Summerill, Mr. Henderson Supplee, Mr. Clayton Stephens Walker, Mr. C. Colket Wilson, Jr.

Miss Mary M. Hibbs, Chorister.
Miss Mary Pugh, Organist.
Mr. Louis Buler, Sexton.

Sundays.

10.45 A. M. Service and Sermon.
2.30 P. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.
3.45 P. M. Service and Sermon.
Holy Communion, First Sunday.
Saints' Days, 9.30 A. M. Holy Communion.

King-of-Prussia:
9 A. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.

The Valley Forge Museum of American History.

Curator, The Rev. W. Herbert Burk, B. D.
Assistant Curator, Mr. Reginald L. Hart.

The Washington Memorial Library.

Librarian, Mr. E. Russell Jones.

The Washington Chapel Guild will hold a Rummage Sale in Hittel's Hall, Port Kennedy, on Tuesday, May 18th, beginning at 10 o'clock.

Organization of Vestry.

A meeting of the Vestry was held on Friday evening, April 23d, for organization. There were present Messrs. Hughes, Quigg, Summerill, Wilson and Walker. Mr. Frank Quigg was elected Accounting Warden, and Mrs. S. Col. Summerill was appointed Rector's Warden. Mr. C. Colket Wilson, Jr., was elected secretary. The delegates chosen to represent the parish at the meeting of the Diocesan Convention were Mr. Charles C. Harrison, Jr., Mr. Frank Quigg and Mr. C. Colket Wilson, Jr. It was unanimously resolved to have a Finance Committee of three members of the Vestry and such other persons as the Committee should select to aid them in their work. Mr. Frank Quigg, Mr. Chas. C. Harrison, Jr., and Mr. Richard Haughton were selected for this committee. A committee consisting of Mr. Frank Quigg, Mr. C. Colket Wilson and the Rector was instructed to prepare a report on the revision of the by-laws for the next meeting of the Vestry. Mr. Henderson Supplee was elected to fill the vacancy in the Vestry. The Rector reported that the contract for the completion of the Chapel had been awarded to Mr. Horace H. Burrell, of Philadelphia, the price being $52,739. He also reported that the Chapel Committee had paid the two notes of the Parish given for salary. These amounted to $650.

Volume VI.

It is impossible to supply any copies of Voume VI of the Washington Chapel Chronicle. This is due to the fact that the entire issue of July, 1913, was exhausted. Our subscribers who have kept the Chronicle are certainly in a fortunate position as we have been unable to secure any copies of the July number. We regret this as there are inquiries from time to time for the bound volumes, or entire sets from the beginning.

Speak not evil of the absent; it is unjust.—**Washington.**

Financial Reports.

REPORT OF THE WASHINGTON CHAPEL GUILD.

Miss Mary M. Hibbs, Treasurer.

Dr.

To balance in treasury May 1, 1914	$ 1 82
To annual dues	63 75
To rummage sales, luncheons, etc.	426 10
To coal fund	37 22
To special fund	142 40
	$671 29

Cr.

To Mr. Quigg, treasurer, for parish expenses	$180 00
To additional parish expenses, etc.	79 09
To Convocation missions	45 00
To dedication music	76 74
To Chapel Chronicle	10 50
To interest on loan	18 75
	$410 08
To bal. in treasury, May 1, 1915	261 21
	$671 29

THE WASHINGTON MEMORIAL SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Report of Miss Ann W. Pechin, Trea.

Receipts.

Bal. on hand, May 1, 1914	$ 53 80
Amount of collections	69 37
Belgian Relief Fund	40 00
Received for Christmas celebration	12 00
Check from Mr. Burk	2 25
Easter offerings	23 36
Collection for Testaments for Soldiers	1 45
Total amount received	$202 23

Expenditures.

Church Sunday School Magazine..	$ 12 50
Ice cream for picnic	5 00
Miss Zulich for Charity Hospital..	2 00
Bishop's Fund	5 00
Belgian Relief Fund	40 00
Jarrett, wagon hire for picnic	22 00
Christmas expenses	21 92
Church Sunday School magazine..	12 50
Christmas books	7 95
Calcium Light	3 75
Advent Offering	4 94
Lumber for platform	6 16
Flowers for Easter (two years)	20 00
Easter Offering	27 60
Easter Expenses	5 00
	$196 32
Balance on hand May 1, 1915	5 91
	$202 23

SUNDAY SCHOOL AT KING-OF-PRUSSIA.

Report of Miss Tacy M. Brooke, Treas.

Receipts.

Offerings, etc.	$150 57

Expenditures.

Charity Hospital, Norristown	2 00
J. Lee Patton, S. S. Assessment	50
A. J. Arnold, Diocesan Clergy Relief	2 00
Christmas Ship	2 85
Bishop's Fund	1 43
Memorial Chapel Expenses	42 00
Lenten Offering	22 17
Advent Offering	4 81
Bibles for the Soldiers	1 00
Expenses	55 35
	$134 11
Balance in Bank	16 46
	$150 57

A New Bonnet.

A new bonnet has been added to the Museum collection. This is not one of the latest fashion as it was made about 85 years ago. This is new only in the sense that it is newly added to our exhibits. It is a Shaker bonnet made of white satin. It is in a remarkable state of preservation, only one of the streamers showing signs of deterioration. The box in which the bonnet came is almost as interesting as the bonnet itself. We hope to be able to give the story of the woman who wore this bonnet nearly a century ago.

The Woman's Aid.

The Woman's Aid to the Convocation of Norristown held its annual meeting at Trinity Mission, Gulph Mills. Unfortunately the date selected was that of the Presentation of the United Offering, so a number of members were kept away. In spite of this conflict of dates and the fact that in some parishes it was not understood that all contributers were heartily welcome at the annual meeting, there was a good attendance. Mrs. Ervien, the President, presided. The meeting was an informal conference and by its informality brought the members closer together and brought out helpful suggestions for the work. Dean Burk spoke on the needs of the Convocation and of the Diocese, and appealed for a deeper interest and a larger measure of helpfulness for the foreigners living in our midst. The members of Trinity Mission through their hospitality added to the pleasure of the occasion. All present were deeply interested in the evidences of growth which they saw in this newest work in the Convocation of Norristown. The next meeting of the Convocation will be at St. James', Evansburg, May 27.

Letter of General Scammell.

Another Valley Forge letter has been added to our collection. This was written by Alexander Scammell, who was made Adjutant General of the Continental Army on the staff of General Washington, January 5, 1778. He served in this capacity until January 1, 1781, when he resigned to assume the command of the first New Hampshire regiment. He was closely associated with General John Sullivan with whom he studied law in Durham, N. H. "On 14 Dec., 1774, he was of the force under John Sullivan, John Langdon, and others that captured William and Mary Fort, Newcastle, and secured its arms and 96 barrels of powder, one of the first overt acts of the Revolution, which was declared treason by the royal governor. While Sullivan was a member of the Continental Congress Scammell had charge of his legal affairs, which detained him from joining the army at Cambridge. When his preceptor was appointed major-general in the Revolutionary army, Scammell was made a brigade-major. On 10 Dec., 1776, he became colonel of the 3d New Hampshire regiment, and he was transferred later to the 1st regiment. In 1777 his regiment was ordered to the northern army under Gen. Horatio Gates. In that campaign he was notably active, and was wounded at Saratoga, 5 Jan., 1778. Preferring active command and the post of danger, in March, 1781, he was given command of a chosen regiment of light infantry, and on 30 Sept., at the siege of Yorktown, as officer of the day ,while reconnoitring the enemy's position, he was captured by Hessian dragoons and so wounded after his capture as to die from the effects of the murderous treatment. Brave, able and chivalrous he was dearly beloved in the army. He was the same height as Washington, 6 feet 2 inches, and was proportioned as an Apollo."

The letter was purchased by the Curator at the sale of autograph letters conducted by Stan V. Henkels, May 10. We print the letter in full:

Camp Valley Forge, April 30th, 78.
Dear Brother.—

The Bearer promises to leave this at Mendon, & if possible to deliver it to you with his own hand—You have undoubtedly heard the Alliance proposed by France & Spain to the United States and of the prospect of a Gen l War in Europe—of the Confusion in great Britain, and that Commissioners are coming from the Court of great Britain to treat with Congress—French politics you know are proverbial—& the Corruption & policy of great Britain to be dreaded—I am much more apprehensive of their Art than their Arms—Of the two, an Alliance with France is preferable —as the british, is the only Nation, that can carry on a War powerfully against America. besides the precious blood and

the infinite Distress ocassioned, & the Depravity of a cruel step Dame; makes me shudder at the thought of entering into an Alliance with a proud, cruel people who would watch the first Opportunity to crush us, and render america miserable. I hope the United States will not hesitate to close with the Terms proposed by France and Spain—If honorable as I hear they are —we shall then be at Liberty to trade with the whole world, and shall soon, under the smiles of Providence become a rich, a powerful, & happy people—and no longer be domineered over, by a petty Island—But we must not conclude that further Exertions are unnecessary—Now is the time whilst our enemies are disheartened to collect our united Force—and crush the remains of british power—now is the time to have a large, a respectable Army in the Field to terrify our enemy, and appear respectable to those powers, who are courting our Alliance—The only way to bring about an Advantageous Alliance, or Accommodation is to do it, at the Head of a powerful Army—Let us crush the cruel Tyrant at once, and revenge the barberities & bloodshed they have been guilty of—My dutiful respects our Hon d Mother—& affectionate Regards to all our dear Friends—Nothing remarkable has turned up lately—we are collecting and disciplining the Army very fast—

Your Affectionate Brother
Alexd Scammell.

Dr. Scammell—

Charity Hospital.

Miss Winifred Zulich, the Parish Treasurer for the Charity Hospital Fund, received $22.00 last year. Do not wait until June to send in your contribution for this great charity, but send it at once, and make it as large as you can. Miss Zulich's address is Valley Forge.

I can never think of promoting my convenience at the expense of a friend's interest and inclinatiou.—Washington.

The Defenders' Gate.

The Defenders' Gate is one of the most striking land marks at Valley Forge.

Unfortunately the Lincoln Arch, begun by the Grand Army of the Republic, has not been completed on account of a lack of funds. The four piers have been built to the height of eight feet, and while some of the cut stone is on hand there is no money to carry on the work.

The design made by Mr. Medary, the architect, for this memorial is of such a character that it appeals strongly to the many visitors to Valley Forge. There ought to be no difficulty in completing the fund for this great monument.

Mr. William F. Bosbyshell, of Philadelphia, has been given the task of raising the money required for the completion of the Defenders' Gate. He has already taken up this important work, and it is hoped that he will be so successful that in a few months the whole amount required can be raised.

It is to be lamented, that great characters are seldom without a blot.—Washington.

The Museum Annex.

Appeals have been made for funds for the erection of the Valley Forge Museum Annex. We hope to build this of Natco Tile, each of which will cost 86c. The following contributions have been received by the Curator:

Mrs. Henry C. Allen, West Roxbury, Mass.	$1 72
Mrs. Emma L. Adams, Tuckahoe, N. Y.	2 00
Mrs. Nathaniel T. Allen, West Newton, Mass.	86
Mrs. Nathaniel T. Allen, West New-Mass.	86
	$5 44

This is a beginning, but only a small one. We hope to report a large addition in our next number of the Chronicle, for this annex is an imperative need.